GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1339
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2002
NEW NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM
RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new national educational curriculum was prepared by National Council for Education Research and Training for the Schools in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the experts consulted by the Government for preparing the curriculum;

(c) the time taken for preparing the curriculum; and

(d) the total amount spent by the Government for preparing the curriculum?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) The NCERT prepared a new National Curriculum Framework for School Education, which was released in November, 2000.

(b) The final document was published after a nationwide multilevel process of consultations, discussion and debate, which involved nearly all the sections of stakeholders in the field of education. These included the internal faculty members of all the constituent units of the NCERT, some eminent scientists, social scientists, historians, artists, social workers, administrators and teachers from the four Regional Institutes of Educationand the Demonstration Multipurpose Schools attachedto these. All the Union Ministers, Education Ministers in the States/Uts, educational functionaries at the state level, leaders of political parties, Members of Parliament, educationists, teachers and teacher educators, voluntary organizations, prominent journalists and social activists were also approached to elicit their comments, views and suggestions in the matter.

Some of the eminent experts who were invited to hold detailed discussions with Curriculum Group of the NCERT duringNovember and December 1999 were (i) Prof. Yashpal, (ii) Prof. M. Mukhopadhyay, (iii) Prof. J.N. Kapur,(iv) Dr. Arvind Kumar, (v) Shri M. Varadarajan, (vi) Dr. Sugata Mitra, Dr. Ravindra Kumar, (viii) Prof. Yogendra Singh, (ix) Dr. (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan, and (x) Dr. S.Z. Qasim

(c) The process of curriculum renewal was initiated in March1997 and completed with the release of the Curriculum Framework in November 2000

(d) No additional fund was given by the government for this purpose. However, NCERT spent about Rs.35 lakhsfrom its budget for organizing consultations at different levels throughout the country & within NCERT.